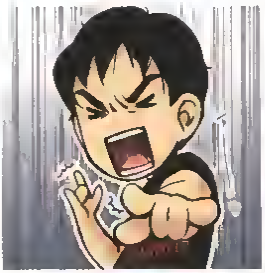
アオイシロ

花影抄

3

原作
麓川智之
漫画
片瀬優

CR COMICS



麓川智之

FUMOTOGAWA TOMOYUKI

THIS IS THE LAST VOLUME. IT COMBINES WITH THE EXTRA STORY OF "AKAIITO" AT THE END OF THE LAST VOLUME TO MAKE AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT ENDING FROM THE GAME. IT'S "ANOTHER STORY" GRAND ROUTE ENDING. THOUGH THIS HAS COME OUT LATER THAN THE GAME, WE WON'T LOSE TO IT AND A BIG THANKS TO KATASE YUU-SENSEI WHO CONTINUED TO DRAW SYOUKO AND COMPANY'S FIGHT UNTIL THE END AND TO ALL THE LOYAL READERS. (RECENT PORTRAIT BY: SAKANAYA EMI)

片瀬優

KATASE YUU

IT'S FINALLY THE THIRD VOLUME. TIME SURE PASSED BY FAST. THANK YOU FOR READING!

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COVER DESIGN : HIROTAKA NUMASAKI (M-SUGA)

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ORIGINAL WORK: FUMOTAGAWA TOMOYUKI
COVER / INSERT / MANGA ILLUSTRATION: KATASE YUU

原作：麓川智之
カバー・表紙・口絵・漫画：片瀬優

オオオ
9話

Oohhh!
オオオ
オオ
IT'S A PIECE OF A GOD THAT WOULD CAUSE ORDINARY PEOPLE TO GO CRAZY JUST BY LOOKING AT IT
THOUGH ITS POWER IS LESS THAN THE "SWORD"
IT HAS A DIFFERENT POWER THAT RESTRAINS.

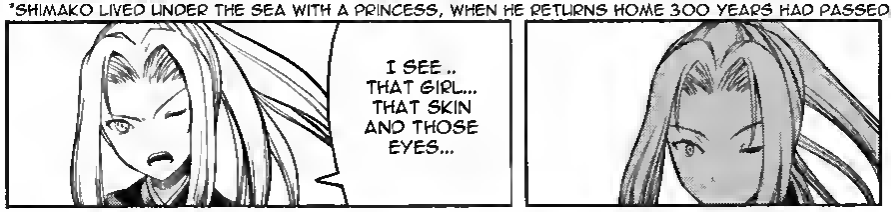
LET'S TURN THIS CALAMITY INTO GOOD FORTUNE...
WE'RE THE ONES HOLDING THE "SWORD"
THAT MAY BE TRUE, BUT...
Gii!
ズ...
SYOUKO-CHAN, THE "SWORD"!
KAYA-SAN, YOU CAN'T.
block
spurt
THAT'S RIGHT, IF MATAMU ABSORBS MOURYOU...
smash
CAN THIS CURSED SWORD OF THE GODS ABSORB IT...?

.....
THOUGH KAYA-SAN IS A STRONG PERSON, THE "SWORD'S POWER" WILL SURELY...
YOU NEED TO HAVE SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS TO USE THE SWORD.
MIGWA!?
hah
hah
collapse
THEN...
THIS IS A BIT TROUBLE-SOME. IS IT TOO MUCH FOR A NORMAL PERSON?
THERE'S THE "SWORD", MATAMU, AND SEKIGANKI... WHAT'S GOING ON?
THAT'S A LITTLE..
Cough
DON'T BRING THAT THING NEAR ME..
AH.

WE SHOULD FIRST GET RID OF ONE OF THEM!
shah!
*TORAHIME (虎姫) MEANS TIGER PRINCESS
IT'S BEEN A WHILE, TORA-HIME *
HOW MANY HUNDREDS OF YEARS HAS IT BEEN SINCE WE MET FACE TO FACE? IT SEEMS THE BOTH OF US ARE STILL ALIVE
slam!
WHOSE THE ONE WHO GAVE ME A BODY THAT LASTED FOR EIGHT HUNDRED YEARS!
AH, THAT WAS ME. I DID IT.
WHAT DO YOU THINK? IT'S RATHER CONVENIENT, ISN'T IT?
clash!

IT REQUIRES LONG PERIODS OF SLEEP SO I HAVEN'T REALLY LIVED EIGHT HUNDERED YEARS.
BY THE WAY, THE BODY YOU CREATED IS A BIT LACKING.
clang!
BUT THAT WAS EIGHT HUNDRED YEARS AGO. IT WASN'T COMPLETE YET.
SORRY ABOUT THAT.
WHEN I WAKE UP, IT'S LIKE BEING URA NO SHIMAKO*...

*SHIMAKO LIVED UNDER THE SEA WITH A PRINCESS, WHEN HE RETURNS HOME 300 YEARS HAD PASSED



SO OSA AND NAMI... GET OUT OF HERE!
IF MATAMU GETS FARTHER FROM THE "SWORD", I MIGHT BE ABLE TO BREATHE BETTER.
YES, YES, I GOT IT.
stagger
I WON'T LET YOU!
nod
grin
clench
I'LL ENTERTAIN YOU, FATHER!
block
YOUR OPPONENT IS ME.

appear
ONIWAKA!
Oohh!
MATAMU!

THE BURDEN OF USING A SHIKI RETURNS TO THE USER. IT'S BETTER NOT TO OVERDO IT.
rustle
rustle
hah
I'D LIKE TO SAY YOU DID WELL TO STOP IT BUT, IS THAT YOUR SHIKIGAMI?
hah
OH...
clang!
slide
IF YOU DISAPPEAR, SO WILL THE SHIKI THEN MATAMU AND I CAN DO AS WE PLEASE
YOU! NARUMI KAYA...
I WON'T LET YOU THROUGH!
BUT IT SEEMS I'VE COME HERE WITH THE POWER OF ONI THAT YOU'VE GIVEN ME FOR VENGEANCE!
IF I WERE HUMAN, I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO STOP THAT ATTACK
YOU'RE STRONG, BA ROURYUU.

HAH
HAH
hah
GEEZ... THERE'S NO END TO THEM...
rustle
hah
hah
BECAUSE THE "SWORD" THAT'S HE'S BEEN LOOKING FOR OVER 800 YEARS OR EVEN LONGER IS FINALLY WITHIN REACH.
ROURYUU IS ALSO SERIOUS ABOUT THIS
snap
slice
YOU!
slash

I'M FINE IT'S JUST A SCRATCH YOU CAN HEAL IT WHEN WE HAVE A MOMENT TO REST.
SYOUKO-CHAN!
LIKE I THOUGHT, EVEN IF THEY'RE JUST GRAZED BY THE SWORD...
thump
BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY... THAT FEELING JUST NOW...?
WE'RE SPECIAL. MIGIWA-SAN IS A NORMAL..
NO, COMPARED TO A NORMAL PERSON MIGIWA-SAN IS ALREADY.
YES.
IS IT BECAUSE OF THE "SWORD" AND MATAMU?
BUT EVEN THEN..
rustle
I GUESS EVEN IF IT'S MIGIWA, SHE CAN'T STOP THAT MANY OF THEM.
BECAUSE MIGIWA-SAN ISN'T AT HER NORMAL CAPACITY...
IF I, WHO AM THE SUCCESSOR OF YASUHIME-SAMA'S SOUL IS HERE, THE "SWORD'S POWER" CAN BE...
WE HAVE TO GET AS FAR AWAY AS POSSIBLE, WHERE THEY CAN'T USE THAT "POWER". IF IT'S JUST THE "SWORD" IT'LL BE OK
A PLACE WITH PEOPLE WOULD BE
BUT WHERE SHOULD WE ESCAPE TO WITH THIS "SWORD"?

YES, WE HAVE TO FIRST GET OFF THIS ISLAND!
snicker
FAITH IS IMPORTANT.
rustle
A CLIFF!?
GEEZ, WE'VE GOT NO LUCK...

ROURYUU!?
YOU LOOK AS IF YOU'RE WONDERING WHY I'M HERE.
BECAUSE I'VE LIVED A LONG TIME, I KNOW A LOT ABOUT THIS ISLAND.
AND ITS UNDER-GROUND PASSAGE-WAYS.
NAMI'S SLOW SO IF THERE'S A SHORTCUT IT WOULDN'T BE DIFFICULT TO CATCH UP.
BUT IF ROURYUU IS HERE, THEN ..
*ROOK IS NARUMI KAYA'S NICKNAME
NATSU NEE-SAN!?
THE THREE OF THEM ESCAPED AFTER THEY DEFEATED MY TIGER CUB.
THE ROOK* HAS RATHER FAST LEGS TOO.
rustle
rustle

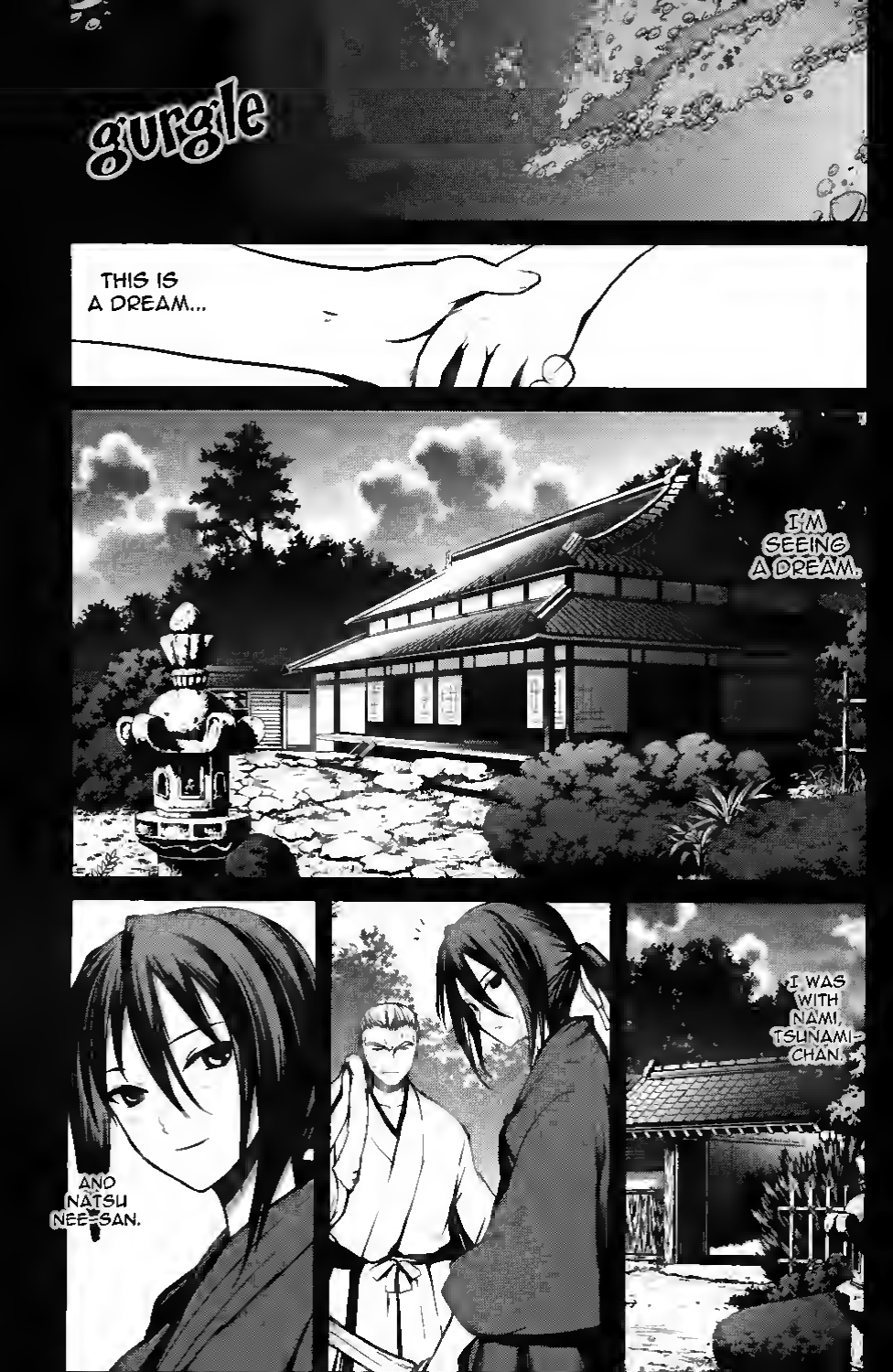
ROURYUU'S TIGER CUB THEY DEFEATED MATAMU?
roar
BUT THEY SHOULD HAVE STUCK A LITTLE CLOSER TO ME.
relieved
IF THEY HAD STOPPED MY MOVEMENT, I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO CATCH YOU IN A CHECKMATE LIKE THIS.
IT'S BETTER IF YOU GIVE UP THE "SWORD" RIGHT NOW.
WE CAN'T WIN...
DIDN'T YOU SEE WHAT HAPPENED TO THE KENKI?*
IF IT WERE AN OPPONENT WEAK AGAINST THE "SWORD'S POWER" LIKE THE MOURYOU...
IF IT WERE A NORMAL PERSON THAT COULD BE WEAKENED BY THE "SWORD'S POWER"...
BUT THIS PERSON IS LIKE NAMI AND ME. HE'S RESISTANT TO THE "SWORD'S POWER".
UNDER THESE EQUAL CONDITIONS I DON'T SEE HOW WE CAN WIN.
crumble
NAMI, CAN YOU DO IT?
BUT WHAT WE WERE ENTRUSTED TO DO WAS NOT TO WIN AGAINST ROURYUU...

*KENKI (剣鬼) MEANS SWORD DEMON AND REFERS TO NARUMI KAYA

IT WAS TO NOT HAND THE "SWORD" OVER TO ROURYUU.
I'LL BE FINE.
IF I'M WITH SYOUKO-CHAN,
I'LL BE FINE.
LET'S GO!
WH...
leap
Splash!

TELLING US THAT WE NEED TO PREPARE FOR A SUDDEN TRIP...
IT'S A GOOD THING THAT IT'S SUMMER VACATION.
BUT TO BE IN SUCH A HURRY THIS LATE AT NIGHT... I DON'T THINK IT'S JUST ON A WHIM
WELL I'M BRINGING YOU JUST IN CASE
IN THE WORST CASE, WE'LL NEED KEI AND YUMEI'S "POWER".
WAKASUGI, THE HEAD OF THE ONIKIRI HAS ALSO BEEN CONTACTED AND THEY'VE STARTED TO MOVE.
THE STUDENTS OF A HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER THAT I KNOW,
ARE ON A SCHOOL TRIP AND IN A BAD SITUATION RIGHT NOW.
BAD?
TSUDURA-CHAN'S COMING? THEN UDUKI-SAN TOO!?
DEPENDING ON HOW IMPORTANT THIS SITUATION IS

ring!
HELLO?
ah!
YOU SHOULDN'T ANSWER THE PHONE WHILE DRIVING
OK, OK
SORRY, THE SITUATION HAS BECOME MORE SERIOUS THAN I EXPECTED.
SAKUYA-SAN...?
I'LL PUT OFF THE ONSEN AND THE DELICIOUS FOOD UNTIL WE CLEAR THIS UP.
screech


gurgle
THIS IS A DREAM...
I'M SEEING A DREAM.
I WAS WITH NAMI, TSUNAMI-CHAN.
AND NATSU NEE-SAN.

THIS IS WHERE THE FESTIVAL FOR KUROU-SAMA IS HELD, AND WHERE THE WIELDER OF THE NEKATA KUROU-RYUU LIVES, NEKATA-SAN'S MANSION.
AND THEN I...
THEN NATSU NEE-SAN WAS..

...A GHOST...?
NN..
!
IT WAS A GIRL WITH LONG HAIR...
!?
SYOUKO-CHAN, GIVE THE "SWORD" TO ME!
scatter

SUMI-CHAN.
THAT GIRL IS...
LOOK AT HER AND TRY TO "SEE".
SYOUKO-CHAN
I'LL SUPPRESS THE "SWORD'S POWER".
IT'S OK NOW.
YA... SUMI...?

shiver
YASUMI
YOU'RE...
IT SEEMS SEMPAI AND NAMI-CHAN ARE BOTH OK.
THANK GOODNESS SEMPAI KNEW IT WAS ME...
I'D UNDERSTAND IF NAMI OR I DIED AND ONLY OUR SOUL RETURNED TO SHOUSHINJI...
OR IF WE COULD SEE AN OPPOSITE WORLD LIKE SEEING THE SPIRITUAL WORLD FROM THE REAL WORLD.
BUT IF YASUMI COULD SEE EVERYTHING NORMALLY FROM HER SIDE...
AH. I GUESS I SORT OF RESEMBLE ONE AT THE MOMENT.
shakes head
I'M NOT A GHOST!
ARE YOU A GHOST?

UMM, TONIGHT, KAPPA-LIKE SHIKIGAMI CAME.
AOI-SENSEI CALLED TO SAY YOU HAD COLLAPSED. WHAT HAPPENED?
AND CARRIED AWAY MY BODY...
WHERE'S YASUMI'S BODY NOW?
WHEN I REALIZED IT, I HAD LEFT MY BODY...
I DON'T KNOW. I LOST TRACK OF IT...
IT WAS BROUGHT TOWARDS THE SEA SO I WAS CHASING AFTER IT...
AH. EVERYONE BESIDES ME IS OK.
THE MONK PROTECTED EVERYONE AND GOT A LITTLE INJURED THOUGH...
I DION T WANT TO BE KIDNAPPED AND WAS SHOCKED.

SYOUKO-CHAN...
IF MIGIWA OR I HAD STAYED...
grip
IT'S BECAUSE SYOUKO-CHAN AND I ESCAPED WITH THE "SWORD".
THAT'S
AND KIDNAPPED HER ALIVE?
WHY WERE THEY AFTER YASUMI?
AND ALSO...
AS I THOUGHT, NAMI-CHAN IS .
NAMI?
BECAUSE I'M NOT THERE,
SUMI-CHAN IS NEEDED.

BUT WHY WOULD HE TAKE YASUMI'S BODY!?
ROURYUU MIGHT BE PLANNING TO USE THE "POWER" OF THE NEKATA RITUAL IN PLACE OF THE "SWORD" TO OPEN THE "GATE" OF THE LAPIS LAZULI SHRINE
SHE IS MY YOUNGER TWIN SISTER.
FOR GENERATIONS, THE NEKATA HAVE CONDUCTED A RITUAL WHERE THE ELDEST OF EACH GENERATION IS SACRIFICED TO KUROU KURUU.
BUT ROURYUU LOST THE BODY OF THE ELDEST.
I, WHO WAS ALSO SACRIFICED IN PLACE OF ANOTHER, HAVE ALSO LIVED ON.
SO ANOTHER APPROPRIATE SACRIFICE IS NEEDED.
YASUMI HAS THE RIGHT QUALIFI-CATIONS?
SUMI-CHAN ALSO HAS THE NEKATA BLOOD FLOWING WITHIN HER.

YES, WE'RE ALMOST THERE.
ARE WE ALMOST THERE?
flap
flap
GEEZ, WHETHER'S IT'S KYORAKU'S OODAKEMARU OR THIS CASE.
WHY IS IT THAT IN MY TIME, WE HAVE TO DEAL WITH SUCH DANGEROUS SWORDS?
THAT'S JUST OUR LUCK.
ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY I'M LIKE A BLADE?
NO..
glor?
WHEN THIS IS FINISHED, I'M GOING TO HAVE TO SCOLD THE ORGANIZATION A BIT.
THE INFO THIS TIME WAS FROM SAKUYA.
THAT'S TRUE.

IF WE CAN FINISH THIS CASE SAFELY THAT IS.

10話

splash
splash
uu...
rustle
rustle
rustle
THE WIND IS REALLY STRONG.

rustle
rustle
roar
THE WIND BECOMES STRONGER BECAUSE OF THE FESTIVAL?
KUROU-SAMA IS RYUUJIN-SAMA, A DRAGON GOD, KEI-CHAN
IT'S BECAUSE TOMORROW IS THE DAY OF KUROU-SAMA'S FESTIVAL.
click
click

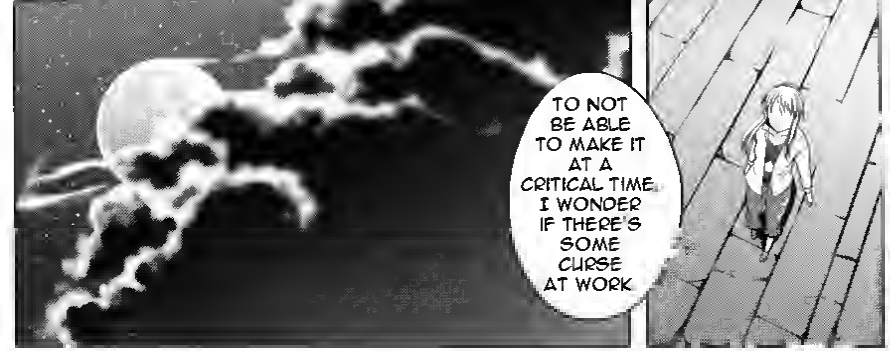
YOU KNOW, THE MOTHER OF MINAMOTO NO YOSHITSUNE?
RYUUJIN-SAMA WAS ALSO SAID TO HAVE LIVED IN SHINSENEN*, THE PLACE WHERE AMAGOI GOZEN PRAYED FOR RAIN.
HEH... SO PRAYING FOR RAIN WAS EFFECTIVE?

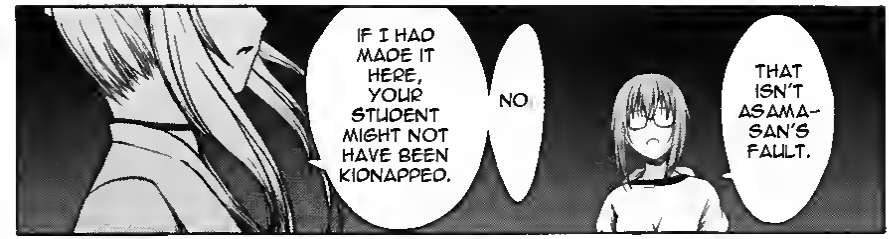
*SHINSENEN(神泉苑) IS A IMPERIAL GARDEN IN KYOTO

IN ADDITION, MATAMU, WHO WAS BORN FROM THE CURSE OF THE ONI KING WAS SEALED IN A RED TSUBAKI BY YASUHIME-SAMA.
THE NEKATA ARE IN CHARGE OF THAT FOREST AND IT'S A FORBIDDEN PLACE.
IN OTHER WORDS, THE NEKATA RITUAL IS THE SAME AS THE HATOH ONE
roar
IT'S TO PREVENT THE TREE WHERE THE ONI IS SEALED FROM WILTING

IT'S SAID THAT THE NEKATA SACRIFICE A BULL EVERY YEAR.
IT WILL HAPPEN TOMO-RROW.
IT'S THE SAME AS THE HATOH ONE WHICH USES SPECIAL BLOOD?
BUT WITH JUST THAT...
IT WOULDN'T BE ENOUGH.
THAT'S WHY I BROUGHT YOU TWO.
ONE OF MY ACQUAINTANCE'S STUDENTS WAS KIDNAPPED AND I THINK IT'S RELATED TO THIS.

OSANAI-SAN AND NAMI-CHAN HAVEN'T COME...
AND ALSO AIZAWA-SAN WAS...
YES
beep
hah
AOI!
SORRY FOR BEING LATE.
ASAMA-SAN!?


TO NOT BE ABLE TO MAKE IT AT A CRITICAL TIME. I WONDER IF THERE'S SOME CURSE AT WORK.


IF I HAD MADE IT HERE, YOUR STUDENT MIGHT NOT HAVE BEEN KIDNAPPED.
NO.
THAT ISN'T ASAMA-SAN'S FAULT.

IN TRUTH, I'M ALSO ONE OF THEM

IT'S TRUE THAT SUZUKI-SAN BY HIMSELF WAS OUTNUMBERED BUT...
EH...?
glance

SINCE YOU'RE A SCHOLARLY PERSON IF YOU BELIEVE IN ONI, THEN THIS TALK WILL GO FASTER.

splash
NOW...
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
WE WERE LUCKY TO HAVE ARRIVED HERE. I WAS THINKING THE FIRST THING TO DO IS RETURN TO SHOUSHINJI.
I WONDER IF THERE'S SOMEONE MONITORING THIS.
THE POWERFUL PERSON THAT TOLD THE MONK TO LET MIGIWA STAY HERE COULD CONTACT THE ONIKIRIBE*.

*ONIKIRIBE (鬼切部) ONIKIRI GROUP

AND WE NEED TO FIND A WAY TO RETURN TO URASHIMA.
BECAUSE NAMI IS SUPPRESSING THE "SWORD", WE AREN'T SUFFERING ANY BAD EFFECTS.
WE NEED TO FIRST DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE "SWORD".
THE STEPPING STONES WON'T APPEAR AT THE NEXT LOW TIDE.
EVEN IF THEY DID APPEAR, THE SEA IS ROUGH AND I WOULD HAVE A DIFFICULT TIME.
WHEN THE SEAS ARE ROUGH, GOING ON A BOAT IS ALSO DANGEROUS.
AND THERE'S ALSO THE TRADITION OF NOT USING A BOAT AT THIS TIME...
I GUESS WE HAVE TO USE A BOAT.
NAMI IS COMING TOO?
YES.
GEEZ... I GUESS THERE'S NO HELPING IT
IT'D BE NICE IF WE COULD JUST FLY OVER THIS OCEAN.
WITH AN AIRPLANE OR A HELICOPTER.

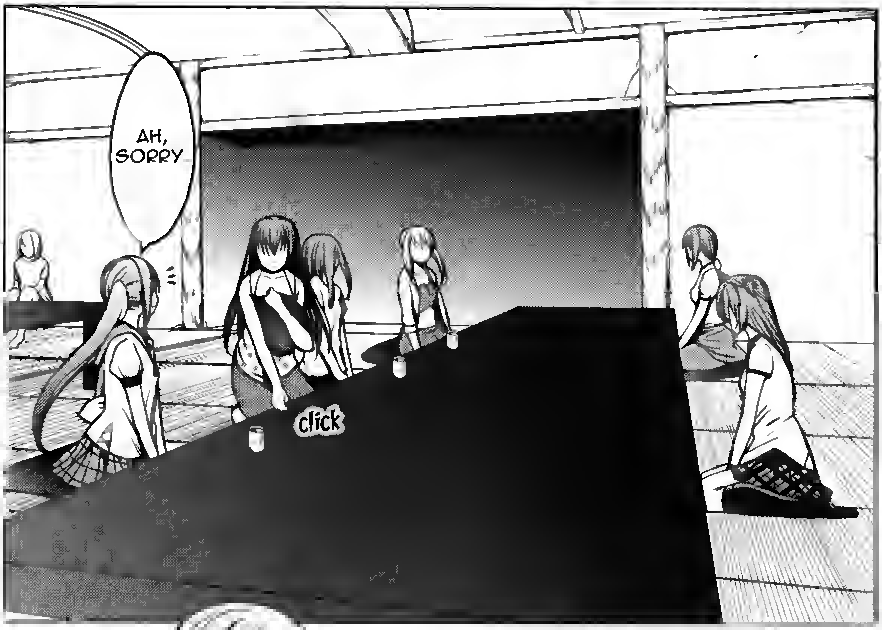
EH!?
LIKE THAT?
flap
flap
!
land
YOU MUST BE KIDDING ME

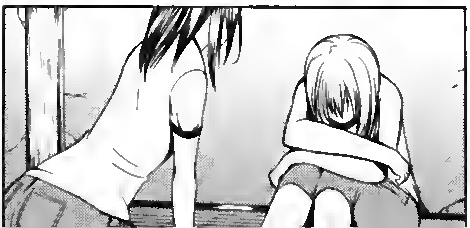
rustle
TSUDURA-SAMA, STAND BACK!
ANYWAYS, WE'RE IN A HURRY...
THIS IS REALLY A BOTHER!
rustle
YES, SYOUKO-CHAN.
snap
NAMI!

throb
NAMI-CHAN, GET AWAY FROM THE "SWORD"!
rustle
wobble
throb
THIS IS...
THE "SWORD"
I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANY OTHER CURSED ITEMS OUT THERE THAT HOLD THIS MUCH "POWER".
collapse
RUMBLE
THEN, IS THAT GIRL THE KENKI...?

CLICK
AS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UDUKI GROUP OF THE ONIKIRIBE, I AM SENBA UDUKI...
I'LL HAVE YOU HAND OVER THE "SWORD"!
SLIDE
TSUDURA-SAMA REALLY DOES HAVE SOME SORT OF KARMA WITH DANGEROUS BLADES.
HAVING OUR TARGET APPEAR RIGHT AFTER WE ARRIVE IN UNASAKA.
clang!
SYOUKO-CHAN!

ONIKIRI-BE!?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I WANTED TO GIVE THIS TO MIGIWA BUT SHE SAID NOT TO GET NEAR HER WITH IT...
IF YOU'RE REALLY FROM THE ONIKIRIBE, YOU'VE REALLY SAVED US AND I'LL HAND THIS OVER
WHAT?
step
KENKI!
LIKE THE NAME SAYS, WE'RE AN ORGANIZATION THAT CUTS DOWN ONI LIKE YOU.
WA... WAIT! I KNOW THAT!
AND ALSO, I'M NOT THE KENKI.
AH.
YOU KNOW KYAN MIGIWA?


AH, SORRY
click



BE CALM THE PEOPLE FROM THE ONIKIRIBE ARE ALSO COMING.
SO YOU GUYS CAN RELAX A BIT.
WELL, IT'S NO SURPRISE THAT YOU'RE FEELING DOWN. BOTH YOUR SPIRITS AND BODIES ARE FATIGUED.
ZAWACCHI WOULDN'T BE...
IF THEY WERE COMING, THEY COULD'VE COME SOONER. IF THEY WERE JUST A LITTLE FASTER ..
THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE.
AKITA-SAN, IT'L BE OK BY MY ESTIMATION, SHE'S STILL ALIVE!
MOMO-CHAN...
UMM.. THAT'S
AOI SENSEI!
STILL
DEFINITELY NOT.

UMM, MOMOKO-CHAN,
IF TSUDURA-CHAN AND UDUKI-SAN ARE COMING, THEY'LL BE ABLE TO DO SOMETHING
KEI-CHAN, BE CAREFUL!
EH? BE CAREFUL OF WHAT!? DID I SAY SOMETHING WRONG?
THAT'S NOT IT...

slide
YOU REALLY ARE DULL.
ring
NOZOMI-CHAN!
KEI, YOU HAVEN'T NOTICED?
NOTICED WHAT?
standing up
MORE IMPORTANTLY, WHY ARE YOU SITTING ON THE TABLE?
THIS IS NOT THE TIME TO WORRY ABOUT THAT
THERE'S A LIMIT TO HOW DULL YOU CAN BE
WHO IS SHE TALKING TO?
I SEE. SHE HAS PSYCHIC POWERS
AH.. SOMETHING LIKE A GUARDIAN SPIRIT.
NO, SHE'S NOT LIKE THAT...

IS IT REALLY THAT STRONG?
THERE'S A REALLY STRONG "POWER" BLOWING FROM THE DIRECTION OF THE SEA.
IT'S RARE FOR NOZOMI-CHAN TO SO STRAIGHT-FORWARDLY PRAISE SOMETHING.
OUCH!
WELL IT DIDN'T HURT, BUT IT FELT WEIRD.
AS SOMEONE WHO KNEW NUSHI-SAMA BEFORE HE WAS SEALED AND WEAKENED, I'M SAYING THAT "POWER" IS STRONG.

HAZY
YES.
IT'S A GIRL WITH SHORT HAIR, RIGHT?
AH, I CAN VAGUELY SEE SOMETHING
COMING FROM ONIGASHIMA?
IF IT'S COMING FROM THAT FAR AWAY, IT REALLY IS SOMETHING.
ANYWAYS, THERE'S A STRONG "POWER" COMING FROM THE SEA...

IT'S SO CLOSE THAT IT WOULDN'T BE STRANGE IF IT SHOWED UP RIGHT NOW.
KEI-CHAN
THAT'S WHY BOTH ME AND SAKUYA-SAN ARE THIS ANXIOUS
roar
roar
AH, THIS IS JUST THE SOUND OF THE WIND.
relieved
IS THAT SO?
STARTLED
roar
WHEN A STRONG WIND BLOWS...

roar
IT'S LOUDER THAN BEFORE, BUT IT'S NOT GETTING CLOSER, RIGHT...?
TRUE. I WONDER IF THE "POWER" IS ACTUALLY GETTING WEAKER.
relieved
BUT, IT'S GETTING CLOSER.
AH, I DON'T GET IT ANYMORE.
THIS ISN'T REALLY MY FIELD OF EXPER-TISE...
standing up
EH!?
WELL...
WE NEED TO CHECK IT OUT.
THAT'S TOO DANGEROUS!
IF IT'S DANGEROUS, WE CAN'T LET IT JUST PASS ON BY, RIGHT?

WELL
TSUDURA-CHAN! UDUKI-SAN!
LONG TIME NO SEE, KEI ONEE-SAN. THE ONIKIRIBE HAVE ARRIVED!
SO THAT "POWER" WAS...

THAT'S FROM THESE GIRLS. IT SEEMS THEY'RE UNDER OUR CARE.
KYAN-SAN CONTACTED US AND SAID YOU'D TAKEN SEPARATE ROUTES SO WE WERE WORRIED.
SYOUKO-SAN! NAMI-CHAN!
YOU'RE OK!?
SAYING WE'RE OK...
SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WORRY.
THE ONE WHO SHOULD APOLOGIZE IS ME.

ACTUALLY, TODAY, AIZAWA-SAN WAS...
I KNOW.
AH..
WE SHOULD TRY TO "SEE" THE SAME AS WHEN LOOKING AT NOZOMI-CHAN RIGHT?

ZA...
ZAWACCHI!?
AH...
AH, IF THAT HAPPENED, I'D BE OK CAUSE I'M JUST A SOUL
IS THAT TRUE!? YOU'RE NOT DEAD?
I'M BACK, BUT IT'S MY SOUL ONLY.
MOMO-CHAN!
crash!
sob
ZA...
sob
ZAWACCHI!
slip

STARTLED
AH...
AH..
BY THE WAY ZAWACCHI, WHY ARE YOU NAKED?
slide
スウ
リ
ring
WELL, THAT OFTEN HAPPENS WITH NOVICES.
IT'S BETTER TO ATTACH YOURSELF TO SOMETHING BECAUSE THE WAVES OF "POWER" WILL RUIN YOUR FORM.
BEING NEXT TO SUCH A FRIGHTENING THING,
startled
Y... YES!?
BY THE WAY, YOU!

IT'S OK. I'M THE TAMAYORI-HIME OF THE NEKATA
I'M AN EMPTY VESSEL THAT EVEN GOD CAN DESCEND INTO.
IF YOU DON'T, YOU'LL LOSE YOURSELF.
UMM...
ONEE-CHAN
SUMI-CHAN, YOU CAN STAY WITH ME
SINCE YOU'RE SISTERS IT SHOULD BE OK, BUT YOUR SOULS MIGHT MELD WITH EACH OTHER.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO INSIDE A PERSON. THIS SEEMS TO BE A TEMPLE WITH HISTORY SO WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIND A SUITABLE CONTAINER.

EVEN IF SUMI-CHAN ENTERS, I'LL BE OK.
SLIDE
SO, SUMI-CHAN
COME HERE.
ONEE-CHAN...
SLIDE

11話

AS A HOSTAGE IN EXCHANGE FOR THE "SWORD" THAT SYOUKO-CHAN ESCAPED WITH?
AND THE MOURYOU HAD ATTACKED AND KIDNAPPED ONE OF THE KENDO TEAM MEMBERS.
WHEN I CALLED LAST NIGHT, OSA AND NAMI HADN'T RETURNED TO SHOUSHINJI YET.
dash
dash
THEN, THINKING ABOUT HIS GRAND PLAN, WAS SHE KIDNAPPED AS AN OFFERING TO THE NEKATA RITUAL?
AND WHO TURNED YOU, WHO HAD DIED, INTO AN ONI, HE'S NOT ONE TO DO THINGS IN A ROUNDABOUT WAY...
AS SOMEONE WHO PICKED ME UP SOON AFTER I WAS BORN FROM KAMOGAWA AND RAISED ME,
THAT'S JUST FOR APPEARANCE.
THE HUMAN SACRIFICE RITUAL TAKES PLACE NEAR THE UNDERWORLD AT THE NEKATA SHRINE.
ACCORDING TO ROURYUU, THE NEKATA RITUAL WILL TAKE PLACE AT SUNDOWN TODAY.
BUT, ISN'T IT SUPPOSED TO TAKE PLACE AT THE SOUTHWEST END OF THE ISLAND AT THE SEA GOD'S ROCKS?
OFFERING A SACRIFICE

THERE'S NO HELPING IT SINCE IT'D TAKE TIME TO RECOVER AFTER WHAT'S HAPPENED.
WHEREVER IT IS, WE DON'T HAVE ANY MORE TIME.
I'VE EVEN SLEPT FOR A HUNDERED YEARS BUT.
AH, I GUESS WE RESTED TOO LONG
IT'S A GOOD THING I DION'T SLEEP TOO LONG THIS TIME.
WELL, IF I GO TO SLEEP IT'LL BE FOR THREE YEARS OR EVEN DECADES...
OR ELSE I WOULON'T EVEN KNOW IF THE CALAMITY HAD GOTTEN ME
I WON'T LET YOU THROUGH!!
IT'LL BE TROUBLE IF YOU OR MATAMU ARE ALLOWED TO DO AS YOU PLEASE.

slash
NARUMI KAYA!!
YOU TRICKED ME AND TURNED ME INTO AN ONI.
AND HAD ME BRING THE "SWORD" HERE...
AND THE RESULT WAS MATAMU'S SEAL WAS BROKEN!
ARE YOU SATISFIED!?
clash
NO.
IT'S STILL NOT ENOUGH.

roar
EVEN WITHOUT THE "SWORD", FATHER CAN MAKE SOMETHING LIKE THE CALAMITY.
HIS AIM IS NOT THE CALAMITY BUT THE "SWORD" AS IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN
YOU SAID YOU WERE THE KENKI. I MEAN NARUMI KAYA?
IF I GOT A HOLD OF THE "SWORD", I WOULDN'T BE AT THIS LEVEL
THIS IS SOMETHING I LEFT HERE, THE PLACE OF THE "GATE", A LONG TIME AGO IN PLACE OF THE "SWORD"
AH.
roar

THAT'S BAD! ONE OF THEM GOT THROUGH!
AS EXPECTED, TO STOP ALL OF THEM ALONE IS...
look
CAN YOU MAKE SOMETHING LIKE THE EIGHT HEADS AND SIX FACES OF ASHURA?
grab
I CAN'T INCREASE THE NUMBER OF ARMS I HAVE BUT COPYING AN EIGHT-LEGGED SPIDER,
AND SPREADING A WEB IS SOMETHING I CAN DO!

*SASAGANE(細金) MEANS THIN GOLD
SASA GANE!
whirl
rustle
SYOUKO AND NAMI SHOULD BE SOME DISTANCE AWAY NOW, SO WE CAN FORGET ABOUT THE MOURYOU.
WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS CALAMITY FIRST.
FROM WHAT I CAN TELL, IT'S NOT COMPLETE YET, SO IF I MESS WITH IT A BIT, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO DISPEL IT.
HUH?
HEY! MIGIWA! SURROUND THE CALAMITY WITH YOUR KAGOME.

USE YOUR THREAD TO MAKE THE KAGOME SEAL.
KAGO-ME...
YOU MEAN MAKING A SIX SIDED STAR WITH ONE STROKE?
WELL, I CAN DO THAT!
FWIP
FWIP
stomp
WELL DONE! ONIWAKA, LURE IT INTO THE SEAL!

crash
smash
spread
screech

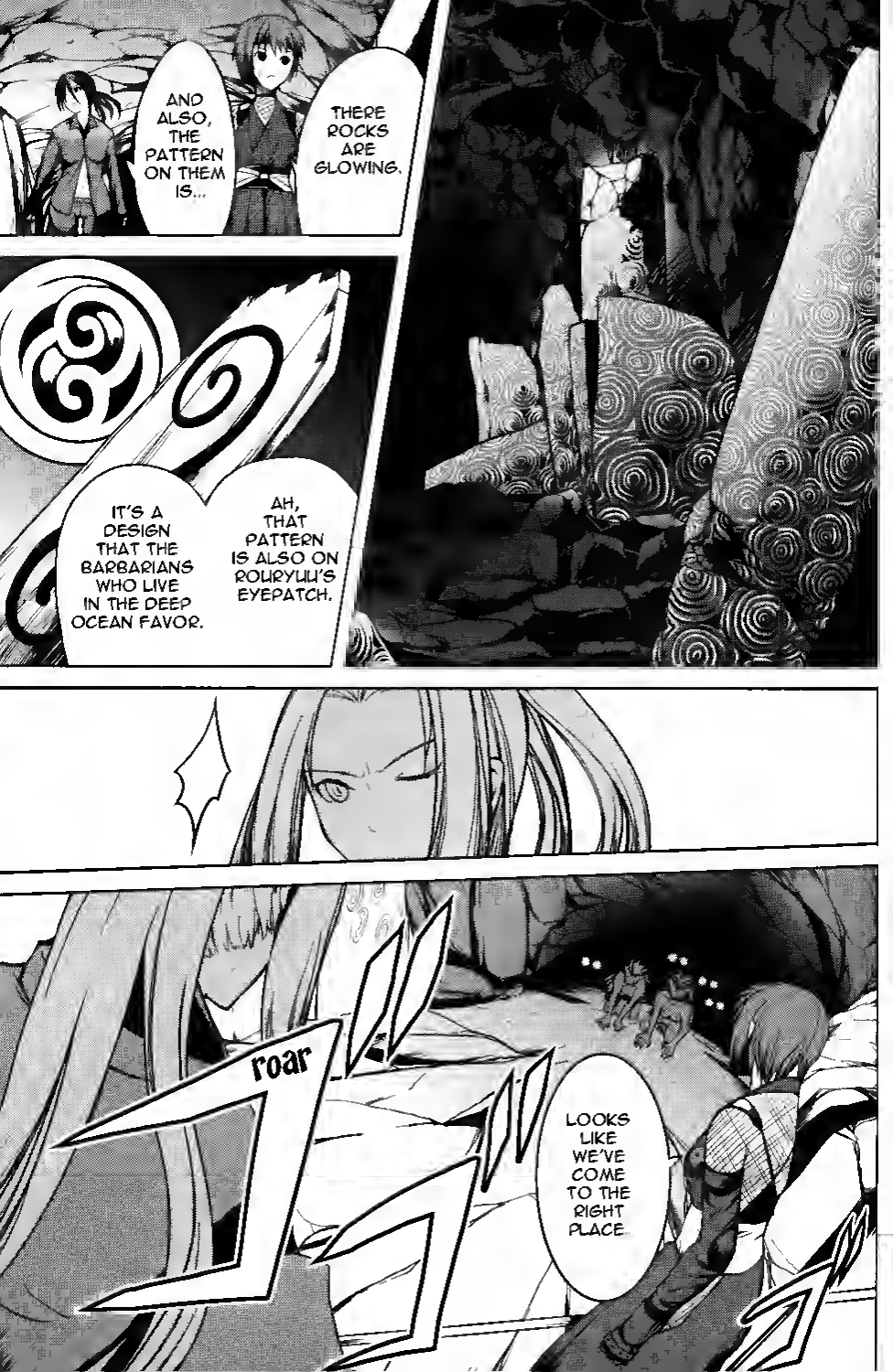
THIS IS TAKING MY "ENERGY" AND TRANSFERRING IT TO ONIWAKA?
shiver
smack!
HOLD THAT! I KNOW YOU'RE TIRED BUT IT'S DIFFERENT FROM THE SWORD SO IT'LL BE OK
LIKE THAT, WE'LL SILENCE MATAMU.
SLIDE
wobble
MY NAME IS... MY FATHER IS
wobble
BY CHANCE GIVEN SHAPE, YOU ARE A DROP OF CHAOS.
LISTEN TO MY COMMAND AND SUBMIT TO ME, A DESCENDENT OF GOD
CALAMITY, MATAMU.

roar
DAMN!
I WON'T LET YOU!

*SANZEN DAIZEN SEKAI (三千大千世界) REFERS TO THE WORLD (THREE THOUSAND WORLDS) WHICH BUDDHA ENLIGHTENED

splatter
CHE!
FATHER! SHOULDN'T YOU HAVE LET THAT TIGER CUB GROW A LITTLE BIGGER BEFORE BRINGING HIM OUT?
WAIT, ISN'T THAT A BAD THING?
IT'S EASIER TO SCATTER IT THAN TO SEAL
WORRY ABOUT THE SMALL THINGS BEFORE THE BIG ONES IT'S TRUE THAT IT MIGHT TURN INTO ANOTHER MONSTER BUT IT WAS BETTER THAN HOW IT WAS RAMPAGING.
IT'S ENOUGH THAT WE SLOWED HIM DOWN! LET'S RETREAT!

dash
BUT IS ROURYUU REALLY UNDER-GROUND?
DIDN'T HE GO SEARCHING FOR OSA AND NAMI?
dash
THIS IS WHAT I'M THINKING,
THAT'S IT'S BETTER THAN LOOKING FOR SOMEONE WE CAN'T CONTACT
YOU'VE BEEN DECEIVED FOR EIGHT YEARS BUT...
I WASN'T AWARE OF MUCH OF THAT TIME...
BEFORE I JOINED UP WITH YOU,
I SNUCK INTO THE NEKATA MANSION AND READ THE NOTES ON THE RITUAL THAT HAD BEEN PASSED DOWN...
THAT ROURYUU HAD BEEN TELLING HUGE LIES.
THE NEKATA HAVE PROBABLY BEEN DECEIVED FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS.
HMM?


THERE ROCKS ARE GLOWING.
AND ALSO, THE PATTERN ON THEM IS...
AH, THAT PATTERN IS ALSO ON RYURYUU'S EYEPATCH.
IT'S A DESIGN THAT THE BARBARIANS WHO LIVE IN THE DEEP OCEAN FAVOR.
roar
LOOKS LIKE WE'VE COME TO THE RIGHT PLACE.

YASUMI
FOR GENERATIONS THE HEADS OF THE FAMILY HAVE AGONIZED OVER THIS
AND EACH HAS BEEN ABLE TO OVERCOME IT...

IF YOU DON'T HURRY, THE SEAL WILL BREAK
slide
NOW, NEKATA MUNE-TSUGU
ROURYUU!

I WON'T LET YOU DO AS YOU PLEASE ANYMORE!
THE KIDNAPPED YASUMIN IN IN THE MIDDLE OF A STEP PYRAMID!
A ROOM GLOWING IN A LAPIS LAZULI COLOR!
NEKATA MUNE-TSUGU!
OH? PEOPLE WHO AREN'T INVOLVED ARE FORBIDDEN HERE.

NOT HERE... I GUESS THEY WERE SWALLOWED BY THE SEA.
che...
THE GIRLS WHO RAN OFF WITH THE "SWORD" ARE...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO LOOK SO ANGRY.
I'M ALSO DISAPP-OINTED THAT THEY FELL INTO THE OCEAN.
snap
AND I WAS GOING TO PLAY WITH THEM A WHILE TOO...
BY THE SEA?
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENED TO OSA AND NAMI, IT'LL BE BAD IF WE DON'T RESCUE YASUMIN.
WE'RE GOING TO STOP THE RITUAL.
splash

AH, THAT'S RIGHT, NEKATA MUNE-TSUGU,
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO KILL YOUR DAUGHTER, WHY DON'T I DO SOMETHING IN YOUR PLACE,
HOW ABOUT THOSE PEOPLE OVER THERE?
KUROU KURUU WOULD PREFER THREE LIVELY PEOPLE OVER A PERSON THAT WAS CULTIVATED BY THE NEKATA WITH MEDICINE MADE FROM YASUHIME-SAMA'S BLOOD, RIGHT?
land
NARUMI, KAYA...
jump
EVEN WITHOUT A FATHER'S IMPARTIAL EYES, YOU CAN SEE THAT WHITE ONE HAS QUITE A BIT OF "POWER"
NEKATA-SAN! PLEASE STOP!
YOU'VE BEEN DECEIVED. THE SEA GOD THAT YOU'VE BEEN WORSHIPPING IS...
I KNOW THAT.

THE NEKATA KNEW FROM THE START THAT KUROU KURUU WAS NOT A PEACEFUL SPIRIT BUT A VIOLENT GOD THAT WOULD BRING CURSES IF IT WERE NOT GIVEN SACRIFICES.
IT'S SAID THAT TO APPEASE THE VIOLENT SEA GOD, A FIRST BORN OF ONE LIVING ON THE ISLAND MUST BE OFFERED TO IT.
AND HUMANS ARE NO EXCEPTION.
SINCE THE ISLAND WAS GOING DOWN THE PATH OF DESTRUCTION EITHER WAY, THE FORBEARS OF THOSE ON THE ISLAND SOUGHT A NEW METHOD.
AND CAME UPON A METHOD WHERE IT ONLY REQUIRED A SPECIAL SACRIFICE ONCE A GENERATION
AT TIMES THE SACRIFICES WOULD END AND THE CALAMITY WOULD APPEAR.
IN TRUTH...
THE CALAMITY!?
slash!

dash
slash
WAS IT ALL JUST SOME SHAM YOU MADE UP?

SO THE RITUAL CAN'T BE STOPPED.
slash
THE RITUAL ON THE ISLAND.. IF THE CALAMITY SPREAD FROM THE ISLAND, THEN IT'D GO TO UNASAKA, AND THEN FROM THERE THE NEIGHBORING LANDS...
THE WHOLE WORLD WOULD BE COVERED.
IT WOULDN'T BE OUT OF THE QUESTION TO HAVE DEVISED A PLAN THAT LASTED FOR EIGHT HUNDERED YEARS, WITH A SACRIFICE ACCOMPANYING THE RITUAL BUT...

clash
IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THE SLUMBER OF THE CURSED GOD, KUROU KURUU, THE NEKATA HAVE FOR GENERATIONS SACRIFICED THEIR ELDEST CHILD.
THE "POWER" OF THE SACRIFICE THAT WE OFFER IS TO ENFORCE THE SEAL ON THE "GATE" THAT CALLS FORTH A THOUSAND WAVES.

rustle
YOU WERE DEFEATED BY ME EIGHT YEARS AGO AND ONCE AGAIN YESTERDAY.
YOU CAN'T STOP ME
BECAUSE OF THE WEAKNESS IN MY HEART, I MUST APOLOGIZE FOR MY ACTIONS TOWARDS YOU AND YOUR COUSIN BUT..
YOU THINK THIRD TIME'S A CHARM?
AFTER THAT, I MET UP WITH SYOUKO-CHAN AND THE OTHERS AND I LOST THE WILL TO GET REVENGE BUT...
IN ORDER TO AVENGE SYOUKO-CHAN, I CHALLENGED NEKATA-SAN BUT WAS DEFEATED USING THE "SWORD'S POWER", I WAS SOMEHOW ABLE TO ESCAPE...
wobble
stand
IF THE THIRD TIME IS NOT ENOUGH,
I'LL FACE YOU AS MANY TIMES AS IT TAKES.

dash
IN THE END, IT'S UP TO ME TO DO IT, I GUESS.
leap
WELL, THAT'S FINE I WAS THE ONE WHO ORIGINALLY TOLD THEM ABOUT THE RITUAL
IN ORDER TO AMASS ENOUGH "POWER" TO OPEN THE LAPIS LAZULI "GATE"!
slash
ROU-RYUU!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY OPENING THE "GATE"? ISN'T THE "POWER" OF THE SACRIFICE USED TO KEEP THE "GATE" SEALED?

I ONLY NEED ONE MORE DROP OF "POWER" AND THEN I'LL HAVE NO MORE NEED FOR THIS RITUAL.
NEKATA-SAN!
STAB
LET'S END THE NEKATA RITUAL AND THE NEKATA SACRIFICE WITH YOU, RIGHT HERE.
SORRY, EVERYTHING I SAID WAS A LIE.
ROURYUU!

roar
IT'S FROM THE WATER...
WHAT'S WITH THE LIGHT IN THIS CHANNEL?
flow
I FIGURED THERE MIGHT BE SOME PROBLEMS WITH OPENING THE GATE SO THAT'S WHY I CREATED THE SHRINE AND RITUAL AND ALSO WHY I WAS AMASSING THE "POWER" OF SACRIFICES.
RORYUU! YOU'VE OPENED THE "GATE"!?
YOU CAN OBTAIN ANOTHER "SWORD" IN EXCHANGE FOR THE ONE YOU LOST?
THEN, IF I GO TO THE LAPIS LAZULI PALACE WHERE KUROU KURUU IS SLEEPING...
THE "SWORD" IS THE "KEY" TO OPENING "GATE" AND IS A BRANCH SHRINE FOR KUROU KURUU.
TORA-HIME TO DECEIVE YOU PEOPLE INTO THINKING I LOST THE "SWORD" IS WHY I PUT ON THIS GRAND ACT
splash

NO MATTER HOW YOU OBTAIN THE "SWORD", THE "GATE" WILL OPEN.
WELL...
sway
THE "SWORD" WAS ORIGINALLY OURS. IT'S THE SYMBOL OF THE LORD OF THE SEA THAT WAS STOLEN BY THE URA*.
YOU WANT IT THAT MUCH...
BECAUSE THE ONE THAT I MADE, THE ONE THAT I WAS USING, WAS STOLEN FROM ME BY YOU PEOPLE.
*URA (漚羅) SKILLED IRONSMITHS FROM KOREA
WAIT! ROURYUU!
leap
AH... WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT YASUMI'S BODY?
WE'RE GOING AFTER HIM! WE CAN'T LET HIM DO AS HE PLEASES!

roar
HAH, IT'S LIKE MOSES AND THE TEN COMMAND MENTS
THE SEA HAS PARTED
THIS IS THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA AT URA-SHIMA!
SPLASH
THAT'S THE "GATE" OF THE LAPIS LAZULI SHRINE!

roar
KU KU.
NOW... OPEN!
HA HA HA...
HA HA HA HA HA!!

12話

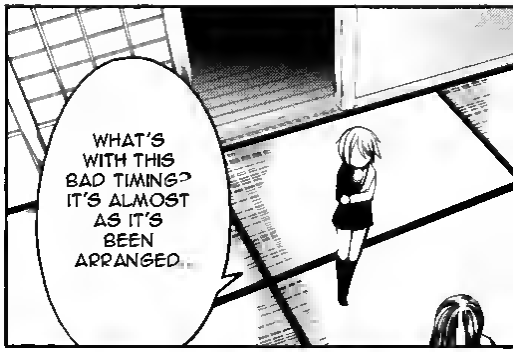
whoosh
IS ZAWA-CCHI...
slide

YASUMI, ARE YOU OK?
AH, YES!
IT MIGHT TAKE SOME GETTING USED TO, BUT I'M OK!
SUMI-CHAN IS RIGHT HERE.
SHIFT
I'M GLAD IT WENT WELL.
EVEN THOUGH I CAN'T SEE HER, I CAN HEAR HER VOICE...
IT'S CAUSE WE'RE TWIN...
CAUSE WE'RE TWIN SISTERS.

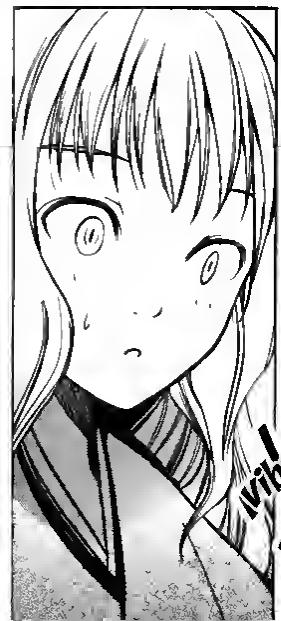
BUT, TO THINK THAT NAMI IS ZAWACCHI'S ONEE-SAN..
smile
FUFU
BY THE WAY, TSUOURA,
IF THIS MATTER IS SO IMPORTANT THAT THE BOSS HERSELF HAS COME, WHY IS ONLY UOUKI HERE?
slide
I WAS THINKING OF HAVING THE MAIN FORCES COME FROM THE REAR AFTER WE FINISHED OBSERVING THE SITUATION BUT ..
IT SEEMS WE'VE RUN INTO A BIT OF BAD TIMING

TIMING?
WELL, THIS EVENING...
AT AROUND 8 PLACES AROUND THE COUNTRY, CLUSTERS OF RATHER STRONG ONI GATHERED.
MAYBE DRAWN TO THEIR "POWER", OTHER VARIOUS SMALL EVENTS ALSO OCCURRED
WE COULDN'T LEAVE IT ALONE SO WE SENT PEOPLE TO DEAL WITH IT

SOME MIGHT ALREADY BE ON THEIR WAY.
WELL, DEPENDING ON WHEN THEY FINISH DEALING WITH THAT, THEY'LL COME HERE.


WHAT'S WITH THIS BAD TIMING? IT'S ALMOST AS IT'S BEEN ARRANGED.

IS IT SOME DIVERSION CREATED BY THE MASTERMIND OF ALL THIS, BA ROURYUU?
IT IS EVENING, SO IT MIGHT JUST BE A COINCIDENCE
WELL...



vibrate!!

THE PIVOTAL "SWORD" IS UNDER OUR CARE WHICH WOULD BE THE FIRST THING TO DO ANYWAYS.

stand
KEI!
IT SEEMS THAT... A "POWER" FROM OUTSIDE IS INTERFERING.
THIS IS...
vibrate
RATTLE

roar
THAT LIGHT...

roar

*URASHIMA TAROU (浦島太郎), THE FISHERMAN WHO SPENT A FEW DAYS IN THE UNDERWATER PALACE OF THE DRAGON KING AND RETURNED TO HIS VILLAGE ONLY TO FIND OUT THAT IN THE HUMAN WORLD, HUNDREDS OF YEARS HAD PASSED.

WAIT!
ROURYUU!!
dash
IF YOU ENTER...
roar
THIS IS THE GATE OF THE LAPIS LAZULI SHRINE THE GATE THAT CONNECTS THIS WORLD WITH THE OTHER.
OR EVEN IF YOU RETURN YOU MIGHT BE LIKE URASHIMA TAROU?*
roar
EVEN IF ROURYUU'S DEFEATED, THERE'S NO GUARANTEE YOU'LL COME OUT ALIVE
EVEN I HAVE NOT BEEN BEYOND THERE.

IT'D EVEN BE HARD ON ME, NOT TO MENTION YOU GUYS.
IT MIGHT BE YEARS, DECADES, OR EVEN...
nod
NO MATTER WHICH ROAD WE CHOOSE, WE MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO SEE ANYONE EVER AGAIN.
I DON'T CARE. THE FIRST THING IS TO STOP ROURYUU
SYOUKO-CHAN...
SO WHILE IT MAY BE A BAD THING TO DO TO YASUMIN, I'VE NO CHOICE BUT TO HAVE HER COME ALONG WITH US.
IF SO, I'D RATHER PUT MY FATE ON STAKE BY MY OWN WILL, SO THAT I CAN ACCEPT THE OUTCOME NO MATTER WHAT.

dash
LET'S STOP ROURYUU!
THAT'S TRUE
splash
roar

flap
EVERYONE, THIS IS AN URGENT SITUATION!
rustle
rustle
WE HAVE TO STOP HIM!
roar
THE RITUAL THAT ROURYUU PLANNED...
roar
YES, I FEEL THAT WE DON'T HAVE ANY TIME TO HESITATE.
BUT WITH THIS WEATHER, HOW ARE WE GOING TO GET TO THE ISLAND?
YES, IT SEEMS THAT DURING THE DAY OF THE FESTIVAL, A STORM IS GUARANTEED TO COME.
roar

rustle
GENE-RAL?
ONI-TAIJI...
rustle

IN THE LEGEND,
IT'S SAID THAT THE OLDER SISTER OF THE GENERAL THAT LED THE ONITAIJI, PRAYED TO KUROU-SAMA TO STOP THE STORM...

slide
SINCE I'M THE HEAD OF THE ONIKIRI, I SUPPOSE I'M IN A SIMILAR POSITION

SYOUKO-SAN, NAMI-SAN,
I'M NOT, BUT...

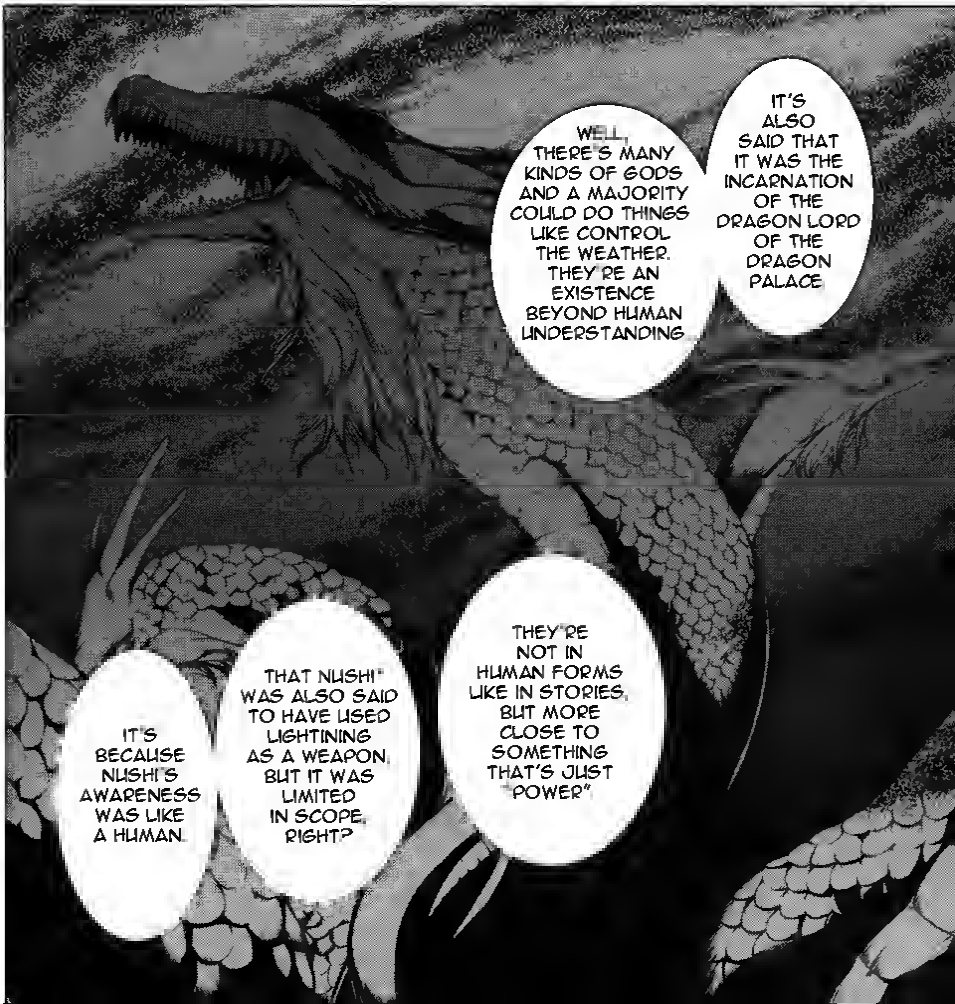
I THINK I CAN
CAN YOU DO SOME-THING?
WAH! TSUDURA-CHAN IS AMAZING.

UDUKI-SAN PUT UP A BARRIER SO THE PEOPLE INSIDE SHOUSHINJI SHOULD BE OK

EH?
PLEASE REMOVE ALL THE CHARMS ON THE SWORD.
YASUMI-SAN IS ALSO IN A "VESSEL" SO EVEN IF IT'S RELEASED, SHE SHOULD BE OK
KEI ONEE-SAN,
EH!?
. DOES KUROU-SAMA LIVE IN THERE LIKE HOW NOZOMI-CHAN LIVES IN MY CHARM?
THIS "SWORD" IS KUROU-SAMA.
TO BE PRECISE, HE DOESN'T LIVE IN THERE, BUT IT'S A WAKEMITAMA, A BRANCH SHRINE FOR KUROU-SAMA THAT HOUSES A PART OF HIS SOUL.

IT'S SAID THAT THE SNAKE GOD THAT WAS TAKEN IN BY THIS TREASURE HAD BLACK CLOUDS ABOVE HIS HEAD.
IT'S BETTER CALLED A SACRED TREASURE.
NO,
WHO WOULD'VE THOUGH THAT ONE BRANCH OF THE ONIKIRIBE WOULD HAVE THIS CURSED NATIONAL TREASURE THAT THEY COULDN'T HANDLE.

*NUSHI (主) MEANS MASTER AND WAS THE MAIN ANTAGONIST IN AKAITO.


WELL, THERE'S MANY KINDS OF GODS AND A MAJORITY COULD DO THINGS LIKE CONTROL THE WEATHER. THEY'RE AN EXISTENCE BEYOND HUMAN UNDERSTANDING.
IT'S ALSO SAID THAT IT WAS THE INCARNATION OF THE DRAGON LORD OF THE DRAGON PALACE.
THEY'RE NOT IN HUMAN FORMS LIKE IN STORIES, BUT MORE CLOSE TO SOMETHING THAT'S JUST "POWER".
THAT NUSHI* WAS ALSO SAID TO HAVE USED LIGHTNING AS A WEAPON, BUT IT WAS LIMITED IN SCOPE, RIGHT?
IT'S BECAUSE NUSHI'S AWARENESS WAS LIKE A HUMAN.

THIS IS MORE POWERFUL THAN NUSHI..
THIS IS NOT A HUMAN FORM THAT PEOPLE WOULD UNDERSTAND AND IS CLOSE TO THE ROOT OF THINGS, A PIECE OF GOD.
BUT THIS IS DIFFERENT
throb
throb
IT'S NOT SOMETHING THE BODY CAN UNDERSTAND AND EXCEPT FOR RARE CASES, CANNOT BE WIELDED BY HUMAN HANDS. BUT...
THIS "SWORD" CAN MAKE A KAMIKAZE APPEAR, OR EVEN CONTROL THE TIDES...
THIS IMPERIAL FRAGMENT OF GOD CAN STOP THIS STORM.
YOU TWO CAN USE THIS, RIGHT?

slash
melt
HAH
HAH
YES.
THE LAPIS LAZULI SHRINE.
THIS IS.

THE CENTER OF THE LAPIS LAZULI SHRINE.
WAS THAT THE ONE IN THE UNDER-GROUND SHRINE?
A PILLAR THAT GIVES OFF LAPIS LAZULI LIGHT...?
IS THAT THE SOURCE OF THE GATE'S LIGHT?
click click
IT IS.
ROURYUU!

WELCOME TO THE CENTER OF THE SEA GOD'S SHRINE.
OR PERHAPS IT'S LIKE AMA NO MIHASHIRA*.
roar
THIS CHAOS IS A MELTING POT FROM WHICH ALL THINGS CAN BE BORN.

*THE HEAVENLY PILLAR WHERE IZANAGI AND IZANAMI WERE SAID TO HAVE BEEN WED.

THE SEA GOD KUROU KURUU IS SEALED DEEP WITHIN
THOUGH THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE BEEN HERE MYSELF
KNOWLEDGE OF THIS SHRINE WAS HANDED DOWN TO THOSE OF US THAT LIVED IN THE DEEP, AND AS YOU GUESSED, THE NEKATA SHRINE WAS MODELED AFTER THIS ONE

squeeze
WELL, THE "POWER" THAT IS LEAKING OUT IT ALSO SOMETHING, SO IF YOU SLOWLY MOLD IT LIKE THIS...
ORIGINALLY, THE "SWORD" WHICH IS THE "KEY" IS SUPPOSED TO ACT LIKE A PRIMER AND DRAW THE "POWER" FROM WHERE IT'S SEALED AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA,
I SEE. THIS IS SOMETHING LIKE THE KANAME-ISHI ON TOP OF THE DRAGON'S HEAD AT KAGOME SHRINE WHICH SEALS IT
pulse
YOU'LL BE ABLE TO ACCUMULATE A "POWER" LIKE THE PRIMER
dash
I WON'T LET YOU!

smash

flow
ROURYUU!
clash!

HAH
HAH
glow
THANKS TO YOU, WE CAN GO OVER THERE.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK.
flap
flap
flap flap flap
I THOUGHT WE WOULD HAVE THE ADVANTAGE AS LONG AS WE HAD THE SWORD, BUT..
YES, IT IS.
THE "SWORD" IS A REALLY FRIGHTENING THING.
roar
WAIT A MINUTE!
WELL, IF WE SEAL THE "GATE", THAT'LL ALSO SOLVE THE PROBLEM.
WE CAN'T BE THAT OPTIMISTIC IT SEEMS THE OPPONENT HAS GATHERED A "POWER" THAT'S SIMILAR TO THE THE "SWORD"

roar
IF ROURYUU IS OVER THERE...
THEN ALSO OVER THERE, IN ORDER TO STOP HIM ARE SURELY...
YOU'VE GOT A CUTE SIDE TOO, CLOSING ONE EYE TO COPY ME.
clash
AS A TEACHER AND A FATHER, HOW LONG DO YOU THINK YOU CAN KEEP TREATING ME LIKE A KID!
BA ROU-RYUU!
glare
THE EVIL EYE OF THE TIGER!
I SEE! YOU FORGOT!
DID YOU FOR-GET?
MY EYE IS..

WHAT!?
slash
ROURYUU! FEEL MY WRATH!

THIS IS THE END!
slash
YOU! WHAT HAVE YOU...
MY EYE-PATCH.
DO YOU THINK, I'LL GIVE UP, JUST BECAUSE OF THIS?
NO, THIS MIGHT BE BAD.
rumble
spurt
DID YOU GET HIM!?
sink

ROURYUU'S PROBABLY BEEN SWALLOWED BY THE CHAOS AND VANISHED.
BUT KNOWING HIM, HE WOULD DO SOMETHING WITH THE LAST BIT OF THIS "POWER".
LIFT
YOU THERE! WE MUST HURRY AND GET OUT OF HERE!
ONI-WAKA!
EH!?
SO YOU'RE SAYING WE SHOULD HURRY OUT OF HERE BEFORE THAT HAPPENS AND FINISH THIS BY CLOSING THE "GATE"?
I DON'T KNOW.
BUT IT CAN'T BE GOOD.
THAT'S RIGHT.
WHAT WOULD HE DO?
throb
BEFORE SOME-THING HAPPENS.

最終話

splash
THAT ROURYUU!
roar
HE DID THIS AT THE END!
COUGH!
throb

ROURYUU OPENED IT...
roar
THANKS TO THE "POWER" OF EIGHT HUNDRED YEARS OF SACRIFICES DURING THE RITUAL.
THOUGH WE CAN ESCAPE FROM THESE THINGS, THE PROBLEM IS HOW TO CLOSE THE "GATE".
screech
roar
IF WE'RE JUST TALKING ABOUT POWER, THERE'S PLENTY LEFT OVER!
BECAUSE IT GOES AGAINST THE LAWS OF NATURE, IT MIGHT NATURALLY CLOSE ON ITS OWN BUT, WITH JUST MY POWER...
...SYOU-CHAN
IF WE HAD THE "SWORD" WHICH IS THE "KEY", EVEN I COULD CLOSE THE "GATE".
WE CAN'T LET KUROU KURUU GET OUT...

roar
YOU MEAN...
SYOUKO-CHAN, IT'S COMING.
I'M SORRY BUT WE CAN'T WAIT ANY LONGER
SYOUKO-CHAN
.....
PLEASE DO IT.
roar

I KNOW THAT...
IF WE STAY LIKE THIS, SOMETHING FRIGHTENING WILL COME.
BUT...
SEMPAI, I'M GOING TO TAKE A LOOK!
slide
SO I'M GOING TO TAKE A LOOK
SUMI-CHAN, IF YOU LEAVE YOUR VESSEL AT A TIME LIKE THIS...
ABOUT THAT, ONEE-CHAN,
IT SEEMS MY BODY IS ALSO OVER THERE.
YES.
YES. IT'S AN EMERGENCY EVACUATION ORDER FOR THE SURROUNDING AREA. IT'S FINE TO USE OUR RESOURCES AND PEOPLE ALSO...

blink
GIRL. SYOUKO HAS THE "SWORD", RIGHT!?
surprised!
Y... YES.
THEY'RE PREPARING TO CLOSE THE GATE.
SYOU-CHAN!? SHE'S SAFE!?
SYOUKO-SEMPAI AND THE OTHERS ARE WAITING OUTSIDE. PLEASE HURRY!
MIGIWA-SAN!
jump
YASUMIN! YOU'RE AWAKE!
LET'S HURRY!
roar
grin
THEN, WE NEED TO GET AHEAD OF THIS THING...

SEMPAI, IT'S COMING!
WELL, IF A BIT OF IT COMES OUT, WE CAN DEAL WITH IT.
stick
IT'S RIGHT BEHIND THEM, SO AS SOON AS MIGIWA-SAN AND THE OTHERS COME OUT, PLEASE CLOSE IT!
2……
3……
slide
1……
OH, SWORD.

CRACKLE
roar
THE "SWORD" THAT IS THE "KEY" OF THE LAPIS LAZULI SHRINE!
STREAK

roar

splash
rustle
FUUN!
snap
SYOUKO-CHAN, THE OCEAN!

slash

HAH
HAH
SYOU-CHAN!

wobble

THAT WAS CLOSE THEY ESCAPED JUST IN TIME
NO..

NOT YET
rumble

roar
THE SEA...
THE "POWER" OF THE "SWORD" IS HOLDING IT IN PLACE SO I THINK IT'S OK FOR NOW..
HUH...

roar
WHY HAVEN'T YOU BEEN SWALLOWED BY THE "CHAOS"?
ROURYUU, YOU...
throb
BY A SMALLEST MISTAKE...
YOU MIGHT'VE CAUGHT A GLIMPSE OF IT EARLIER, RIGHT HER INSIDE ME,
SOMETHING INCREDIBLE HAS ENTERED THERE.
AH, IT'S STILL NOT ENOUGH,

shock
THE CHAOS'S
shock
THAT LEFT EYE...
DEMON EYE!?
flap
IMPOSSIBLE! HOW CAN YOU BE OKAY WITH THAT THING SO CLOSE TO YOUR BRAIN...
THIS THING MIGHT'VE BEEN CAUSING ME TO ACT A LITTLE WEIRD...
WELL, IT'S LIKE THAT. I'VE BEEN WITH THIS CHAOS FOR A LONG TIME.
IT'S NOT A WATER TRICK BUT...

I CAN DO FEATS LIKE THIS!
roar
NOW... IT'S THE MATCH OF THE BARBARIANS THAT LIVE IN THE DEEP.
THEY'RE MONSTERS ON THE SAME LEVEL AS MATAMU
THIS IS DIFFERENT FROM THOSE SMALL FRY.
FIRST, I'LL START WITH THIS COUNTRY OF THE RISING SUN.
MY TEN FINGERS AREN'T ENOUGH TO COUNT THEM.
SHALL WE START THE BATTLE?

WHAT...!?
scatter
thud
IT'S THE ONIKIRI-BE!
THEY MADE IT IN TIME.
relieved
SO NOW IT'S NOT KAMAKURA BUT UNASAKA.

rustle
I, WAKASUGI TSUOURA, LEADER OF THE ONIKIRI, SO COMMAND
WE'RE THE ROCK THAT WILL STOP THIS CHAOS FROM CREEPING PAST UNASAKA.
STOP THIS FOREIGN ONI, BA ROURYUU FROM INVADING OUR LAND!
rustle
rustle
LISTEN UP EVERYONE!
WE'RE THE ROCK THAT WILL DAM UP THIS ENCROACHMENT FROM THE FARTHEST LANDS.
*IZANAGI USED A ROCK CALLED THE CHISIKI NO IWA TO BLOCK THE ENTRANCE TO THE UNDERWORLD
CAN YOU STOP ME?
OH!
I'LL SHOW YOU THAT WE CAN!

roar
WE'RE GOING TOO.
I HAVE NO CHOICE
CAN YOU GO ON?
UOUKI-SAN, MIGIWA-SAN, WE'RE GOING TO STOP ROURYUU!
HAH!

ONIWAKA! OPEN UP A PATH FOR US!
smash
roar
ROURYUU!

WELL, YOU HAVE SUPERIOR NUMBERS, SO IF I WERE ALONE, YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO STOP ME.
IF YOU GIVE UP YOUR LIVES, YOUR FUTURE, EVERYTHING, THEN YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO STOP ME.
I'LL ALSO BET EVERYTHING AND FACE YOU ONIKIRI WITH THESE BITS OF CHAOS THAT DROPPED OUT.
Grin
Wrap

slash
DID WE GET HIM!?
roar
CAN YOU STOP THIS!?
BUT...

roar
オォオォオォ
DEFEATING ME WON'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT THIS
CAN YOU STOP THIS PURE, NATURAL "POWER" OF GOD...?
A TSU-NAMI IS COMING
THE WAVES
LOOK...
HAH
HAH
BUT SYOUKO-SAN AND NAMI HAVE ALREADY EXHAUSTED THEMSELVES PREVIOUSLY
TO STOP THAT, I'D SAY WE NEED TO OFFER AN EYE FOR AN EYE.
WELL, LOGICALLY THAT SEEMS TO BE THE CASE.
HEY TSUDURA, IF THEIR "POWER" COULD INCREASE BY SEVERAL TIMES, THEN IT'D BE OK, RIGHT?
SYOUKO CHAN!
struggle
HAH
I'LL TRY IT...!

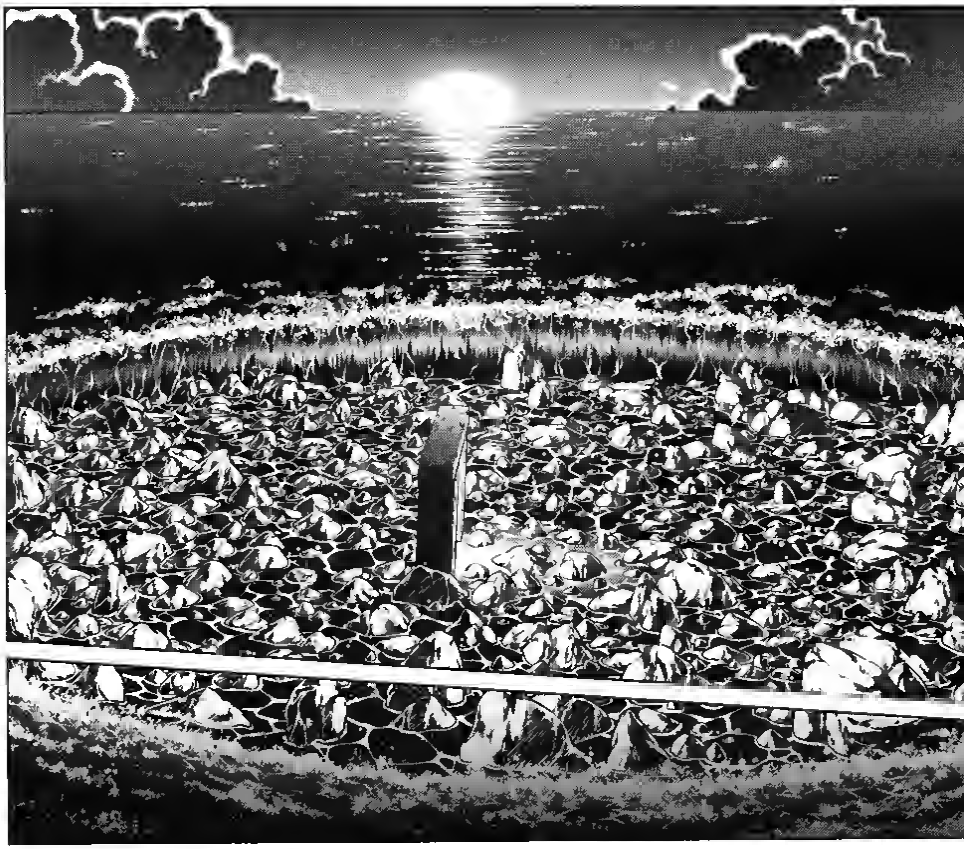
THOUGH SYOUKO IS HUMAN, THE NIE NO CHI* WOULD WORK, RIGHT?
!
AH, THAT'S WHY I BROUGHT HER.
THE OWNER OF THE NIE NO CHI, KEI ONEE-SAN.
NIE NO CHI...?
THIS ABSENT-MINDED PERSON WHO LOOKS TO BE USELESS AT A PLACE LIKE THIS,
HOLDS A SPECIALLY THICK BLOOD EQUAL TO COUNTLESS THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE.
SUPER-NATURAL BEINGS WHO DRINK HER BLOOD ARE ABLE TO OBTAIN AN AWESOME AMOUNT OF "POWER".
THIS GIRL'S BLOOD BELONGS TO ME SO IT'S ANNOYING THAT I HAVE TO LET YOU HAVE SOME BUT...
IF SHE DIES, IT'LL BE EVEN MORE TROUBLESOME.

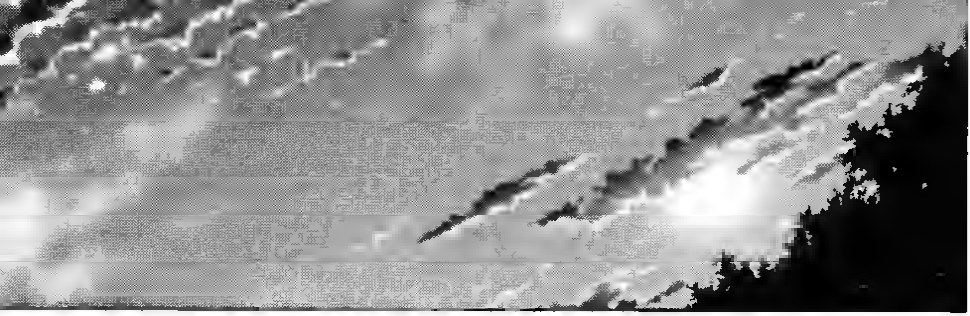
*NIE NO CHI (贄の血) MEANS BLOOD OF SACRIFICE

slide
スル
OUCH!
KEI-SAN, I'M SORRY ABOUT THIS
THEN, I'LL TAKE CARE OF NAMI-CHAN..
GO ON..

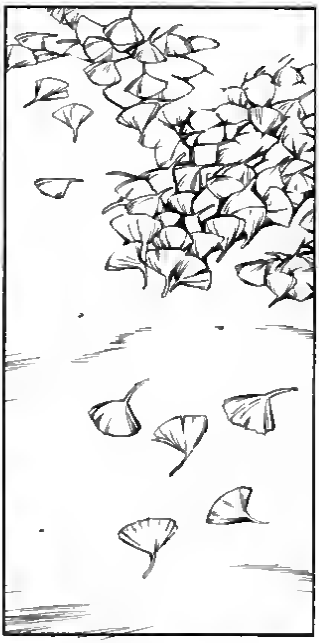
throb
ARE ARE YOU OK?
SYOUKO CHAN!
NAMI!
WIPE
YES!

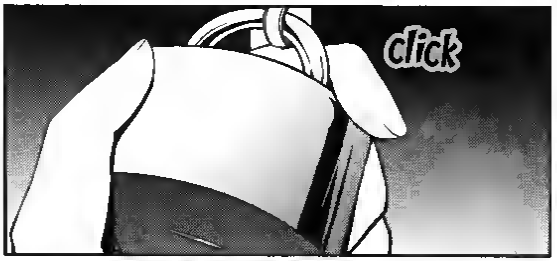
YOU ARE THE OTHER SHRINE OF THE SEA GOD...
A FRAGMENT OF THE THE CHAOS, KUROU KURUU, THE "POWER" THAT CREATED THIS WORLD..
COME, IZANAMI
roar
THE SAVAGE "POWER" THAT CALLS THE WAVES...





GOOD BYE
THANKS FOR EVERY-THING...



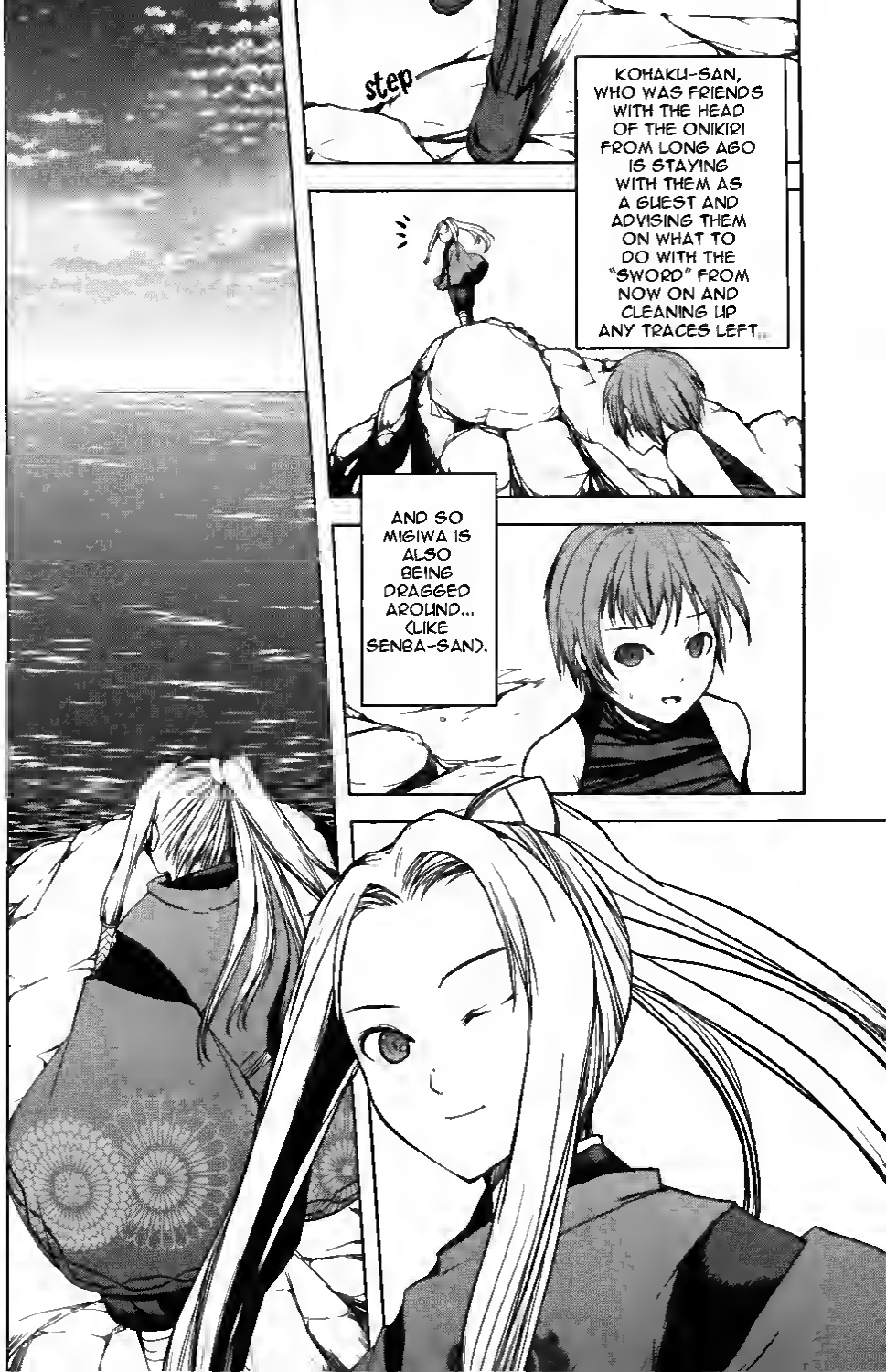

click

RECENTLY... DIDN'T YOU JUST ASK ME THE DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY?
BUT...

HOW HAS ONEE-CHAN BEEN DOING RECENTLY?

NAMI, WHO LOST THE NEKATA MANSION AS HER HOME, AND NATSU NEE-SAN, WHO RETURNED AFTER 8 YEARS, ARE STAYING AT MY HOME.
IF YOU'RE THAT WORRIED WHY DON'T YOU JUST GO TO OSA-SEMPAI'S HOUSE..?
WE WERE ABLE TO AVOID THE BIG TSUNAMI, BUT URASHIMA WAS FLOODED AS A RESULT.
NATSU NEE-SAN IS PRACTICING THE FAMILY BUSINESS OF ACUPUNCTURE AT THE CLINIC AND IS ALSO NAMI'S HOME TUTOR.
SOUNDS GOOD.
SO WHEN SHE HAS A FREE DAY LIKE ON SATURDAY OR SUNDAY...
AH, IS IT OK IF I BRING NATSU NEE-SAN ALONG TOMORROW?

!!!
SHE'S NOT NEEDED AT MY GRANDPA'S ACUPUNCTURE CLINIC.
HUH? SO INSTRUCTOR KAYA'S ALSO COMING TOMORROW?
IT REALLY HELPS THAT SHE COMES MORE FREQUENTLY THAN KAKUBEE-SENSEI.
YOU KNOW, THE ONE WE MET AT UNASAKA?
KEI SEMPAI?
AH, HATOH-SAN.
ZAWACCHI, WHO'S IT FROM?
UMM.. KEI-SEMPAI.
HEH... SO YOU'RE STILL EXCHANGING MAIL?
I'VE BEEN ASKING HER ABOUT VARIOUS THINGS SUCH AS LEAVING MY BODY
NOZOMI-CHAN IS THE ONE THAT ANSWERS THOUGH...


step
KOHAKU-SAN, WHO WAS FRIENDS WITH THE HEAD OF THE ONIKIRI FROM LONG AGO IS STAYING WITH THEM AS A GUEST AND ADVISING THEM ON WHAT TO DO WITH THE "SWORD" FROM NOW ON AND CLEANING UP ANY TRACES LEFT...
AND SO MIGIWA IS ALSO BEING DRAGGED AROUND... (LIKE SENBA-SAN).

THAT'S TRUE. WE WERE ABLE TO COME BACK SAFELY.
THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS THAT EVERYONE IS DOING WELL.
THE END OF A JOURNEY WASN'T WHEN YOU REACHED YOUR DESTINATION, BUT WHEN YOU RETURNED HOME.
THAT'S TRUE, AKIKO-SAN SAID IT TOO ..
DOESN'T IT FEEL GOOD THAT EVERYTHING'S ENDED

番外編

I WANT EYES...
EYES...
EYES...
drag

roar

AND I HEARD THE EYES WERE TAKEN..
ISN'T IT JUST ANOTHER GHOST STORY?
BUT IT WAS EVEN IN THE NEWS-PAPER.
stir
stir
IT SEEMS THE FIRST SUSPECT WAS ARRESTED BY POLICE BUT ..
THEN DO YOU THINK IT DISGUISED ITSELF AS ONE OF THE DEAD VICTIMS?
AH HA HA SCARY

SO THAT'S HOW IT IS.
THEY SAID IT'S A BAD TIME FOR AN ONI TO APPEAR.
BOSS, SO THE ONIKIRI ARE LIKE THAT?
IN ALL LIKELIHOOD, IT'S A SMALL ONI SO THEY'D APPRECIATE IT IF WE'D TAKE CARE OF IT.
OK
WELL, IT IS THE SEASON FOR SCHOOL TRIPS.
SO ORDINARY ONIKIRI ARE JUST ONIKIRI TO BE USED.
WE ONLY JOINED WITH THE ONIKIRI GROUP AFTER THE EDO ERA.
SO TO THE ONE IN CHARGE, WE'RE JUST ANOTHER GROUP, ACCESSORIES ON TOP OF ACCESSORIES
IT'S BECAUSE WE'RE THE RYUU KYUU SUTEN GROUP.

SO KIJUMUN LIKE EYES, HUH...
IT'D BE NICE IF THEY WERE SATISFIED WITH JUST FISH EYES
IF IT'S ATTACKED PEOPLE, THEN AS ONIKIRI, WE CAN'T LEAVE IT ALONE
jump
jump
I WON'T LET YOU ESCAPE!
leap
IN OTHER WORDS, THAT'S MY TERRITORY!
grab
IT'S HEADED TOWARDS WHERE I CAME FROM...

screech
SASAGANE!
細金!
bird
bird
throb
WHAT!?

roar
I SHOULD'VE LEARNED THAT TECHNIQUE FROM THE BOSS OR MY GRANDMA.

EYES
EYES
THE KIJUMUN WAS POSSESSED BY A YANAMUN IN A SITUATION LIKE THIS...
I WASN'T PREPARED TO FIGHT A SPIRIT TODAY...

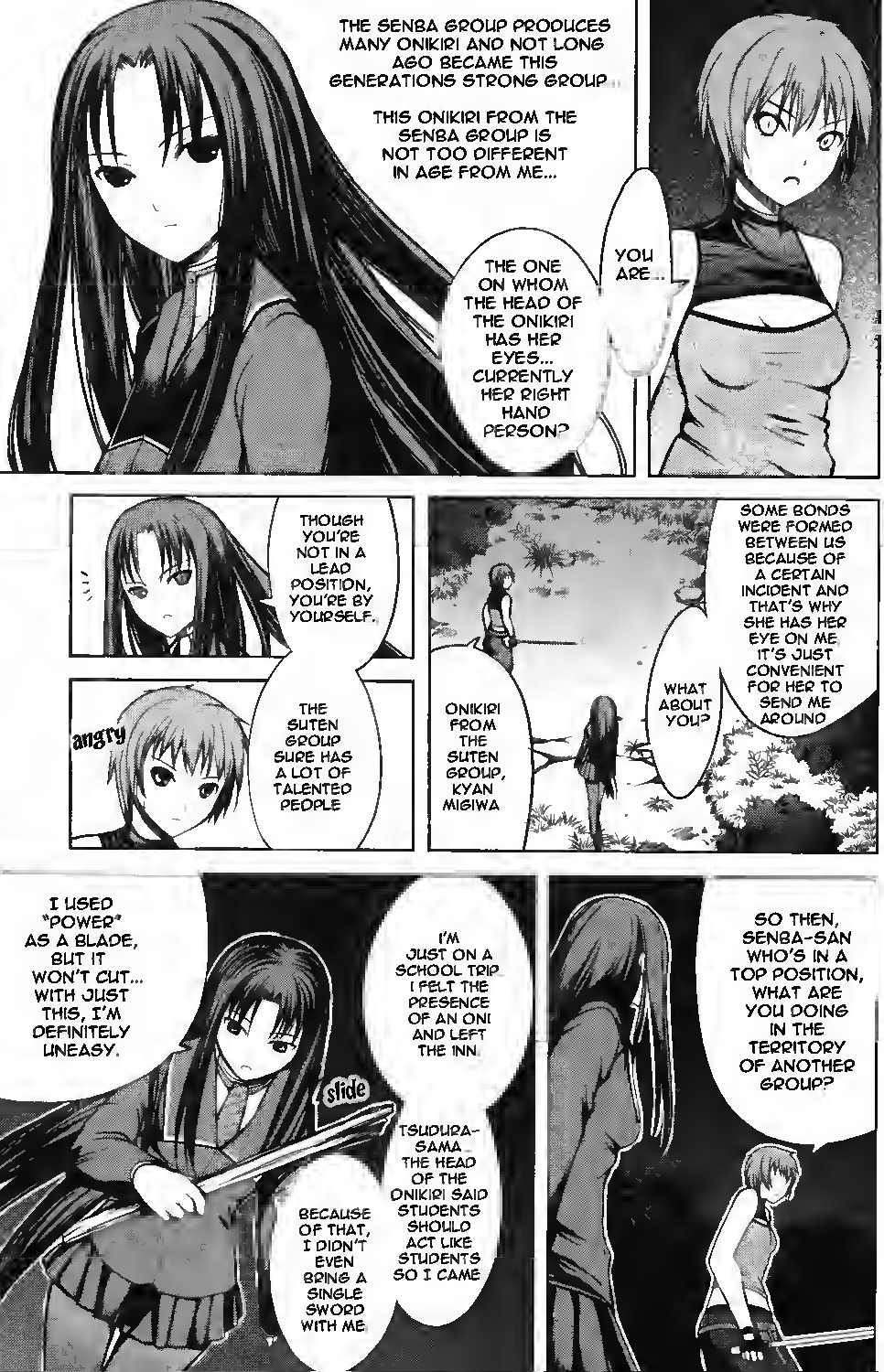
slash

ONIKIRIBE SENBA GROUP, ONIKIRI SENBA UDUKI.

hiss
AN ONIKIRI FROM AROUND HERE, ARE YOU FROM THE SUTEN GROUP?

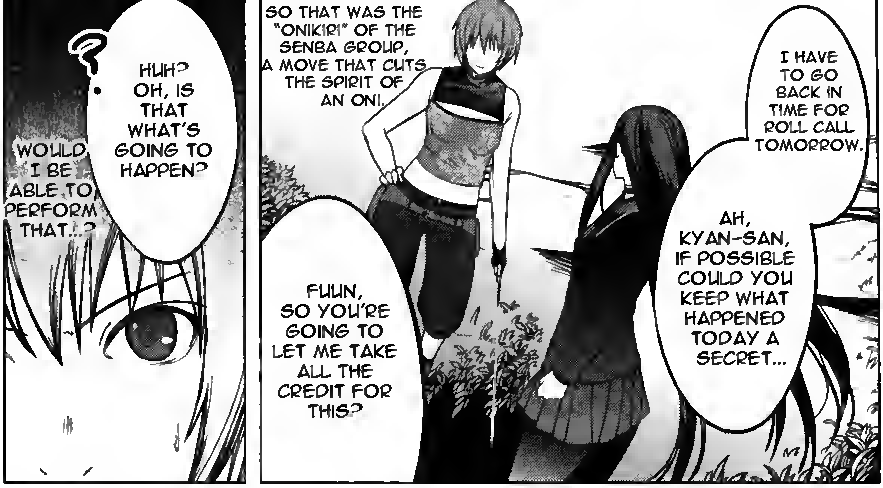
IT'S POLITE TO GIVE YOUR OWN NAME BEFORE ASKING SOMEONE A QUESTION RIGHT?

PARDON ME.


THE SENBA GROUP PRODUCES MANY ONIKIRI AND NOT LONG AGO BECAME THIS GENERATIONS STRONG GROUP.
THIS ONIKIRI FROM THE SENBA GROUP IS NOT TOO DIFFERENT IN AGE FROM ME...
YOU ARE...
THE ONE ON WHOM THE HEAD OF THE ONIKIRI HAS HER EYES... CURRENTLY HER RIGHT HAND PERSON?
THOUGH YOU'RE NOT IN A LEAD POSITION, YOU'RE BY YOURSELF.
angry
THE SUTEN GROUP SURE HAS A LOT OF TALENTED PEOPLE
ONIKIRI FROM THE SUTEN GROUP, KYAN MIGIWA
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
SOME BONDS WERE FORMED BETWEEN US BECAUSE OF A CERTAIN INCIDENT AND THAT'S WHY SHE HAS HER EYE ON ME. IT'S JUST CONVENIENT FOR HER TO SEND ME AROUND.
I USED "POWER" AS A BLADE, BUT IT WON'T CUT... WITH JUST THIS, I'M DEFINITELY UNEASY.
slide
I'M JUST ON A SCHOOL TRIP. I FELT THE PRESENCE OF AN ONI AND LEFT THE INN.
TSUDURA-SAMA... THE HEAD OF THE ONIKIRI SAID STUDENTS SHOULD ACT LIKE STUDENTS SO I CAME
BECAUSE OF THAT, I DIDN'T EVEN BRING A SINGLE SWORD WITH ME.
SO THEN, SENBA-SAN WHO'S IN A TOP POSITION, WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THE TERRITORY OF ANOTHER GROUP?

roar
SO IT'D BE REALLY HELPFUL, KYAN-SAN, IF YOU COULD TAKE OF THE PHYSICAL BODY.
stir
THAT MIXED UP BODY!?
YES. IF WE DON'T CUT BOTH OF THEM AT THE SAME TIME, IT'LL BE HARD TO DESTROY IT.
SINCE THIS ISN'T ITO, MY LONG SWORD...
rush
IT'S COMING
rustle

守天応身流が舞の手
竜巻
smash
SUTEN OUJIN RYUU GA MAI NO TE...TATSUMAKI!
bang
鬼切り
smash
千羽妙見流
LET'S GO!
SENBA MYOUKEN RYUU...ONIKIRI!
NOW...
rustle



【アオイシロ ー花影抄ー③ 完】

STAFF

天城さとし　入穂　筒井大志　根木屋

CR COMICS

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卯良島に渡った、梢子、ナミ、夏夜、汀、コハクを
待ち受けていたのは、〈剣〉を狙う
隻眼鬼・馬瑙琉であった。
馬瑙琉は、その力で梢子たちを追いつめ、〈剣〉
を手に入れるため、根方の祭儀を利用して
瑠璃宮の〈門〉を開き始める。
だが、そのピンチを救うため「アカイイト」の
メンバーたちが駆けつけた！

まんが王で
お買い求めの皆様
ありがとうございます

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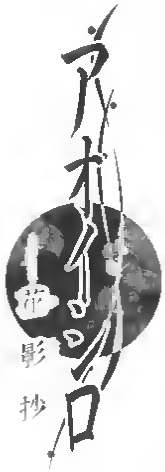

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